

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00668 091123Z
ACTION SAA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 SES-02
/041 W

-----011800 091129Z /10

O 091025Z AUG 78 ZFF-6
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN FLASH
AMEMBASSY JIDDA FLASH
SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1941
INFO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL FRANKFUR IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0668

FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED)
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF AMBASSADOR ATHERTON

REF: AMMAN 6429

1. AMMAN REFTEL, INFORMING ME THAT GOJ REQUESTS I DELAY MY
DEPARTURE FROM AMMAN IN ORDER TO MEET WITH KING SATURDAY AFTERNOON
AUGUST 12, WAS NOT RECEIVED IN ALEXANDRIA UNTIL THIS MORNING,
AUGUST 9. IF I DO NOT SEE KING UNTIL SATURDAY AFTERNOON, FLIGHT
INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTEL INDICATES THAT I COULD NOT DEPART
AMMAN UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING AND WOULD NEED TO OVERNIGHT SOMEWHERE
IN EUROPE TO MAKE CONNECTING FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON ON MONDAY.
ASSUMING IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SEE HUSSEIN BEFORE SATURDAY
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AFTERNOON, I WILL PLAN TO PROCEED ACCORDING TO ALTERNATIVE A IN
PARA 4 REFTEL, WHICH IS AS FOLLOWS:
AUGUST 13 DEPART AMMAN ON BA 222 AT 1230
ARRIVE LONDON AT 1600
AUGUST 14 DEPART LONDON PAA 107 AT 1040
ARRIVE DULLES AT 1400

2. EMBASSY AMMAN IS REQUESTED TO RESERVE SPACE ACCORDING TO THE FOREGOING SCHEDULE FOR PARTY OF FOUR (AMBASSADOR AND MRS. ATHERTON, DAVID KORN, AND SY AGENT ED NAPOLIELLO). EMBASSY LONDON IS REQUESTED TO MAKE NECESSARY HOTEL RESERVATIONS, LOCAL TRANSPORTATION, AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS. DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO ARRANGE TO HAVE US MET UPON ARRIVAL AT DULLES.

3. SINCE IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, I WOULD LIKE TO BE BACK IN WASHINGTON BEFORE MONDAY, EMBASSY JIDDA AND EMBASSY AMMAN ARE REQUESTED TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE SCHEDULE. JIDDA 5816 INDICATES THAT I MAY HAVE MEETINGS THIS EVENING, AUGUST 9, WITH BOTH PRINCE SAUD AND CROWN PRINCE FAHD. IF THIS IS THE CASE, I WOULD BE ABLE TO DEPART TAIF OR JIDDA FOR AMMAN THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 10, AND BE IN AMMAN IN TIME FOR MEETING WITH KING HUSSEIN ON LATE THURSDAY AFTERNOON OR EVENING. I COULD THEN DEPART AMMAN FRIDAY ON WHATEVER COMMERCIAL FLIGHT IS AVAILABLE TO EUROPE FOR CONNECTING FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 12. JIDDA IS, THEREFORE, REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN IF POSSIBLE AND CONFIRM TO AMMAN AND DEPARTMENT WHETHER MY MEETINGS IN SAUDI ARABIA WILL BE COMPLETED WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 9. AMMAN IS REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO SEE KING HUSSEIN THURSDAY AFTERNOON OR EVENING AND CONFIRM TO JIDDA AND DEPARTMENT. IF THIS WORKS OUT, EMBASSY AMMAN SHOULD MAKE ONGOING RESERVATIONS FROM AMMAN FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, PREFERABLY THROUGH EITHER LONDON OR PARIS, FOR CONNECTION TO WASHINGTON (DULLES) SATURDAY, CONFIDENTIAL

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AUGUST 12. AMMAN SHOULD ALSO NOTIFY LONDON OR PARIS OF FINAL ARRANGEMENTS SO THEY CAN MAKE LOCAL TRANSPORTATION, SECURITY, AND HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS. I LEAVE IT TO JIDDA TO WORK OUT WITH DEPARTMENT HOW I GET FROM TAIF TO AMMAN THURSDAY MORNING EITHER COMMERCIALY, OR IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, THROUGH USE OF EMBASSY JIDDA DAO C-12 AIRCRAFT IF IT IS AVAILABLE.

4. I REALIZE THIS IS A VERY SHORT TIME FUSE BUT WOULD APPRECIATE, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, HAVING REPLIES TO FOREGOING QUESTIONS WHEN I ARRIVE IN TAIF AT 2000 SAUDI TIME TODAY. MCCLELLAND

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